# **Inside Town Finances Volume 7: Expenses**

### Expense categories

The chart to the right shows the composition of the FY2020 budget for the Town of Hingham. It excludes capital outlay and funding for self-supporting entities, including the South Shore Country Club, Sewer, and Weir River Water System; expenses for these entities are entirely funded from user-fee-generated revenue.

**Municipal services** account for 25% of total expenses. Municipal service categories include General Government, Police, Fire, Public Works, Human Services, and Culture & Recreation.



**Education services** account for 52% of total expenses. Education service categories include Regular Education, Special Education, and Vocational Education.

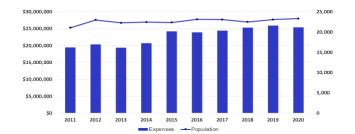
**Shared expenses** account for 23% of total expenses. Shared expense categories include Debt Service (principal + interest payments), Employee Benefits, and Insurance.

Allocating Shared expenses to their respective Municipal and Education departments results in apportionment of the Town's total budget to be roughly 34% for Municipal and 66% for Education.

## Municipal expense and population trends

The chart to the right shows actual Municipal expenses (bars) and population (the line) for fiscal years 2011-2020. The left axis displays expense amounts; the right axis displays Town population.

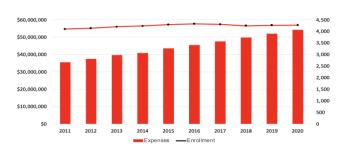
Between 2011 and 2020, Hingham's population increased by 2,238, or 11%. In that same time, Municipal expenses increased by \$6.0 million, or 31%.



## Education expense and enrollment trends

The chart to the right shows actual Education expenses (bars) and enrollment (the line) for fiscal years 2011-2020. The left axis displays expense amounts; the right axis displays school enrollment (Source: MA Dept of Education and Secondary Education).

Between 2011 and 2020, Hingham Public School enrollment increased by 167 students, or 4%. In that same time, Education expenses increased by \$18.7 million, or 53%.



#### Shared expenses

The chart to the right shows the composition of FY2020 Shared expenses.

**Benefits** for both active and retired employees represent 62% of Shared expenses. Between 2011 and 2020, Benefit expenses increased by \$5.2 million, or 56%.

**Debt Service** represents 35% of Shared expenses. Between 2011 and 2020, Debt Service expenses increased by approximately \$350,000, or 5%.

**Insurance** represents 3% of Shared expenses. Between 2011 and 2020, Insurance expenses increased by approximately \$360,000, or 92%, due to additions to the Town's asset base and claims activity.



52%